

three levels viz. Divisional, Zonal Head Quarters and Railways Board.

2. Punctuality drives are being conducted by nominating officials to monitor trains.

3. Running of trains at maximum permissible speed subject to observance of safety limits and speed restrictions.

4. Improvement in Time tabling to provide a clear path.

5. Improvement in standard of maintenance to reduce equipment failures.

6. Counseling and motivating staff to ensure punctual running.

7. Liaison with State Government to tackle the Law and Order problems and miscreant activities.

Lesser Degree Colleges for Girls

†*296. SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the number of colleges / degree colleges for women in rural areas is very low, as a result of which a large number of girls drop out;

(b) if so, whether Government are going to take any steps, keeping in view the education of girls;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) to (d) No, Sir. According to the information furnished by UGC, the enrolment of women in higher educational institutions has been increasing over the last few years. The percentage of women's enrolment in universities and colleges was 35% in 1998-99. The number of women's college's which was 851 in 1989-90, increased to 1359 in 1998-99.

†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.